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SUNSET: 7:03 p.m.
HIGH TIDE: 3:07 a.m. - 3:44 p.m.
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'FOCUSED STRATEGY'

Thompson: Govt. intent on improving GB's economy

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include the opening and re-development of the Lucayan Strip along with "iconic" properties such as Xanadu and Royal Oasis.

He added that this requires marketing Grand Bahama as a place to do business in the technology industry focusing on things such as tourism, manufacturing, and maritime.

"You should be assured that these are being aggressively pursued," he said. "We are committed to establishing Freeport as a technology hub similar to Silicon Valley."

Thompson said that although that is a major commitment, the government is determined to accomplish that goal.

He noted that it is important to develop new businesses on the island and it is also essential that existing companies are able to take advantage of every opportunity available on the island.

"The Business-to-Business Expo aligns with the mandate to generate much needed growth in our local economy. Therefore, we must ensure that local businesses and entrepreneurs are in a position to provide ancillary ser-



OPENING REMARKS – Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister, Sen. Kwasi Thompson brought opening remarks at the GB Business-to-Business Expo that got underway at the Pelican Bay Resort, Thursday morning.

VICES to our anchor companies within the industrial sector," he said.

He added that we must diversify the economy, because solely relying on the Tourism industry is not enough.

To not enough, he thanked the Grand Bahama Shipyard and Buckeye Bahamas Hub for pioneering the way.

"I want them to fulfill their duty by ensuring that they use the businesses that are in this room. If a Grand Bahama business or entrepreneur can provide the service at a reasonable price give them the contract," he advised.

Sen. Thompson promised that the Expo was just the beginning as the government would be following up, fully expecting and demanding that wherever possible, local businesses be provided with opportunities.

"This exercise must also be results driven and the result must be that more Grand Bahamians are given opportunities in Grand Bahama," he said.

It is Thompson's belief that in six months, the island will have

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TRAFFIC FATALITY – A 23-year-old Bootle Bay male, believed to be Harry (Hiram) Johnson, became the island's sixth traffic fatality Wednesday (September 27) evening, when he lost control of his vehicle and crashed in bushes. Police and mortuary officials are pictured removing the body from the scene of the accident.

Police continue to warn motorists

GB records sixth traffic fatality

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A 23-year-old Bootle Bay resident became the island's sixth traffic fatality for the year on Wednesday (September 28) evening, when he lost control of his vehicle and crashed into bushes.

Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) Assistant Superintendent of Police Terecita Pinder, Public Affairs and Communication Officer (PACO) said that calls came into the police dispatcher sometime around 8:00 p.m. Wednesday.

Initial investigation reports revealed that around 8:00 p.m., officers were called to the Queens Highway, Bootle Bay area, where a traffic accident involving a grey four door 2007 Honda Accord, driven by a lone male driver, reportedly lost control and crashed into bushes along the roadway.

The male driver succumbed to injuries at the scene, where a crowd gathered after hearing of the accident.

The victim, who has not been officially identified by the police up to press time is believed to be Harry (Hiram) Johnson.

Police are actively investigating this matter and are appealing to the motoring public to please slow down, adhere to the speed limit and to always wear a seat-belt.

This fatality is the second one for the month of September.

The fifth traffic fatality occurred Friday, September 1 when a silver 2006 Audi A4 Sedan driven by a 30-year-old Deangelo Sturup was found in bushes with extensive damages.

Sturup suffered received massive injuries to the body and succumbed to his injuries on scene. The fourth, third and second

traffic fatalities occurred on Monday, August 7, 2017 on East Sunrise Highway and Gedney Drive, Freeport, Grand Bahama.

The victims were later identified as 75-year-old Emilia Rusconi of Italy, 77-year-old Vincenzo Di Troia of Italy and 48-year-old Paola Di Troia of Italy.

The first seven months of the year were free of deadly car accidents up until the first traffic fatality on Friday, August 4.

According to reports shortly

before 4:00 p.m., a traffic accident occurred on Settler's Way involving a 1999 Toyota Ram driven by a 26-year-old male with a seven-year-old female passenger.

The vehicle collided with a wooden utility pole and sustained extensive front damages.

EMS personnel were called to the scene and transported the male passenger to the Rand Memorial Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Marco City MP discusses plans for his constituency

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Member of Parliament for Marco City and Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Michael Pintard said that he has and will continue to empower his constituents in a meaningful way, in order for them to lead sustainable and productive lives.

Pintard made this statement during his communication to the House of Assembly Thursday morning, September 28.

He noted that he and his team are committed to fulfilling the promises made to the residents of Marco City on the campaign trail.

"We have begun our business plan development courses; we made a commitment, during the election that we will produce a wide range of businesses in Marco City. Two of those programs have commenced, we are in the midst of various business modules that will help persons learn how to organize and successfully run their business."

"At the end of the six-week session we will be providing various empowering gifts to

those persons who have developed successful business plans. We have an independent panel that will adjudicate those business plans that are developed and those persons will be provided with – \$5,000.00 towards their business.

"We will be assisting them with rental space for an eight-month period and we are providing them with a mentor that will oversee the further development of the business," said Pintard.

"We have a second initiative that is going on, where there are three entrepreneurs, who are in the process of formulating an internet café and resource center that will have both a for-profit component and a non-profit component. We have entered into discussions with one of the telecommunications companies who will provide free Wi-Fi services. We are negotiating full hard line installation for those businesses and the telecommunication company is in agreement that all five of the constituencies in Grand Bahama will benefit from a similar arrangement."

He shared that the ultimate

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